

**Chapter 8.32
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

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- 8.32.010 Care and maintenance res-
ponsibility.**

It shall be unlawful for an owner or handler of an animal to withhold adequate food, drink, care, veterinary care, grooming, adequate space and shelter from said animal, which is reasonably necessary to maintain said animal in good health, comfort and safe from potential hazards. To insure the availability of adequate space for large animals, notwithstanding anything in this code to the contrary, it shall be unlawful to keep any horse, mule, burro, ass or cattle on a lot or other parcel of ground that is not over one-half acre in size.

8.32.020 Keeping of diseased or painfully crippled animals.

A. It is unlawful for any person to abandon or turn out at large any sick, diseased or disabled animal.

B. It is unlawful for the owner or handler of an animal rendered worthless to said owner or handler by reason of disease or disability, to allow said animal to continue to live in a diseased or disabled state. Said owner or handler shall dispose of such animal by killing the same in a humane manner, or by contacting the division. Upon such contact, the division may assume responsibility for disposition of the animal, not including livestock, provided that the owner or handler shall pay a fee, in advance, to the division to pay for division's cost in disposing of the animal. If the owner or handler fails to pay such fee, and fails to dispose of the diseased or disabled animal as required above, such person shall be in violation of this title.

C. It is unlawful for an owner or handler of an animal which is infected with a disease, or is in a painfully crippled condition, to have, keep or harbor such animal without placing the animal under veterinary care and/or to dispose of such animal as required above in subsection B.

8.32.030 Abandonment of animals.

It is unlawful for any person to abandon any animal within the geographical boundaries of the city.

8.32.040 Hobbling animals.

It is unlawful for any person to hobble livestock or other animals by any means that may cause injury or damage to any animal.

8.32.050 Animals in vehicles.

A. It is unlawful for any person to carry or confine any animal in or upon any vehicle in a cruel or inhumane manner, including but not limited to carrying or

confining such animal without adequate ventilation or for an unusual length of time. Persons transporting an animal in the open bed of a vehicle must physically restrain the animal in such a manner as to prevent the animal from jumping or falling out of the vehicle.

B. It is unlawful for any person to allow a vehicle to be used as a shelter or housing for pets.

8.32.060 Physical abuse of animals.

It is unlawful for any person to kill without legal justification, maim, disfigure, torture, beat, whip, mutilate, burn or scald, over-work, cause to fight, or in any manner treat any animal in a cruel or malicious manner. Each instance of such treatment shall constitute a separate offense.

8.32.070 Injury to animals by motorists— Duty to stop and assist.

A. The operator of a motor vehicle or other self-propelled vehicle being operated upon the streets of the city shall, in the event said vehicle should strike and injure or kill any domesticated animal, give reasonable aid and assistance and/or protection to said animal, without placing himself at unreasonable risk, and call and report the facts pertaining to the incident to either of the following authorities:

1. The city's police department;
2. The director; or
3. The division.

B. After making the report required above, the operator shall comply with the instructions given by the agency contacted and shall, if instructed, remain at the scene until appropriate police or animal control authority arrives. After arrival of appropriate authority, the operator shall cooperate with said authority in the investigation and reporting of the incident.

C. As an alternative to complying with the requirements set forth above, the motor

vehicle operator may transport the animal which has been struck to the division's animal facility, or, in the case of an animal which is injured and not dead, to a veterinarian for treatment of the animal's injuries. If the operator chooses the latter course of action, he shall be responsible for the cost of treatment if required by the veterinarian. The division shall not be responsible for the cost of treatment unless it has accepted responsibility after the operator's compliance with any of the requirements of this section.

D. This section shall not apply to operators of emergency vehicles if such vehicles are being operated in response to a bona-fide emergency situation at the time the animal is struck. Emergency vehicle operators who strike an animal during a response to a bona-fide emergency situation shall notify the director or the division of the incident as soon as is practicable thereafter.

8.32.080 Poisoning animals.

Except as provided in this section, it is unlawful for any person by any means to knowingly or recklessly make accessible to any animal, any substance which has in any manner been treated or prepared with any harmful or poisonous substance. This provision shall not be interpreted so as to prohibit the use of poisonous substances for the control of vermin in furtherance of the public health, when applied in such a manner as to reasonably prohibit access to other animals.

8.32.090 Steel-jaw traps.

It shall be unlawful for any person to use steel-jaw traps to trap animals, unless authorized by the director.

8.32.100 Mistreatment of animals.

It shall be unlawful for any person to provoke any animal.

**8.32.110 Baby rabbits and fowl—
Restrictions.**

A. It is unlawful for any person to sell, to offer for sale, offer to give as a prize, premium or advertising device, or display in any store, shop, carnival or other public place, any baby rabbits or fowl under eight weeks of age in any quantity less than six.

B. It is unlawful for any person to sell, offer for sale, barter or give away any baby rabbits or fowl under eight weeks of age during the two week period preceding Easter in any quantity less than twenty-five.

C. It is unlawful to artificially dye or color any animal less than six months of age.

D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the purchase and raising of such rabbits and fowl by a private individual for his personal use and consumption provided that he shall maintain proper brooders and other facilities for the care and containment of such animals while they are in his possession.

E. It is unlawful to offer as an advertising device, or to display, any animal without at all times keeping adequate food and water available for the animal's use.

F. It is unlawful for any person to offer as a premium, prize, award, novelty or incentive to purchase merchandise, any live animal. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the offering or sale of animals in conjunction with the sale of food or equipment designed for the care or keeping of such animals.

G. Each day an offense of this section occurs or continues shall be a separate offense.

8.32.120 Selling certain turtles prohibited.

It is unlawful to own or sell, barter or trade any *Chrysemys scripta-elegans* (Red-Eared Sliders) that are four inches in length or smaller, or *psendemys troostii*, family Testudinidae (pet turtles).

8.32.130 Killing birds.

It is unlawful to kill any bird, or to rob or destroy any nest, egg or young of any bird, in violation of Utah law.

**8.32.140 Giving animals as sales
premiums.**

It is unlawful for any person or business to offer any live animal, fowl, bird, reptile, or fish as a premium, prize, award, novelty or incentive to purchase merchandise.

A. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the offering or sale of animals in conjunction with the sale of food or equipment designed for the care or keeping of such animals in compliance with all necessary permits.

B. This section does not apply to groups whose purpose is to enhance a particular species and/or educate its members on the proper care and handling of a particular species, and which may offer as a prize animals of the type specific to the groups purpose, only to members of the group.

**8.32.150. Prohibit display of animals for
sale or gift.**

It is unlawful for anyone except licensed businesses, humane societies recognized by the state of Utah, and government animal shelters, to offer or display any pet for sale or gift in any public place or facility frequented by the public.

8.32.160 Dead animals.

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to permit any dead animal to remain upon the premises of such person, or for the owner of any dead animal knowingly to permit the same to remain upon any public property or upon any premises within the city. If the owner of such dead animal does not remove the dead animal himself or cause the dead animal to be properly disposed of within a reasonable time, the city may cause it to be removed and thereupon assess the actual costs

of such removal and disposal against the owner, and may avail itself of all remedies in law and equity to enforce such removal and recover the costs thereof.

8.32.170 Using animals for fighting.

A. It is unlawful for any person to raise, keep or use any animal, fowl or bird for the purpose of fighting or baiting or for any person to be a party to or be present as a spectator at any such fighting or baiting. It also is unlawful for any person to knowingly rent any building, shed, room, yard, ground or premises for any such fighting or baiting of any animal, fowl or bird, or to knowingly suffer or permit the use of such person's building, shed, room, yard, ground or premises for any such purpose.

B. Animal control officers may enter any building or place where there is an exhibition of fighting or baiting of a live animal, fowl or bird, or where preparations are being made for such an exhibition, and may arrest persons there present and take possession of all animals, fowl or birds engaged in fighting or there found for the purpose of fighting, along with all implements or applications used in such exhibition. This provision shall not be interpreted to authorize a search or arrest without a warrant when such is required by law.